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Femi Adekoya



Year of call: **2021**
Degree: **BA Law (Cambridge, Double First Class), LLM (University of Pennsylvania Law School, Distinction), BPTC (City, Outstanding)**

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' practice. Recent highlights of Femi's experience include assisting with the following significant cases:

- the Prime Minister's successful defence in a claim brought by the FDA challenging the Prime Minster's decision that the conduct of the Home Secretary did not breach the Ministerial Code
- a multi-jurisdictional fraud claim brought against 17 separate defendants for damages of more than USD $1 billion
- the UK Government's representation in the European Court of Human Rights on the issue of whether the Convention provides a right to repatriation from war zones
- successfully acting for a child Afghan refugee in a family reunion case
- the Volkswagen AG class action arising out of what is often described as "Dieselgate"
- challenging EU sanctions against Hosni Mubarak, the former President of Eygpt, and his family resulting in the de-listing of the family

From October 2022 to February 2023, Femi undertook a secondment with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, where he sat in the sanctions team and provided advice to FCDO staff on UN and UK domestic sanctions.

Prior to undertaking his pupillage with Blackstone Chambers, Femi was Judicial Assistant to Lord Justice Haddon-Cave for the Court of Appeal of England and Wales. Femi has also worked on climate change for the United Nations Global Compact in New York, and in the Enforcement team of the Financial Conduct Authority.

While studying for the Bar, Femi was a Legal Assistant to Stephen Hockman QC at Six Pump Court (focusing on environmental and regulatory law) and represented claimants before the First-tier Tribunal (Social Security and Child Support) as a volunteer for the Free Representation Unit.

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EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law.

Cases

The Student Energy Group v Emirati

[2023] EWHC 2465 (KB)

Acting as junior counsel for an energy company in a claim for fraudulent misrepresentation, s.423 transactions defrauding creditors and conspiracy against five Defendants arising from the non-supply of gas injunction

China NTG Investments Ltd -v- Great River Corporation Ltd (& Ors.)

BVI Commercial Court (ongoing)

Defending substantial fraud claim in relation to Hong Kong and BVI companies on behalf of first and second defendants.

Willbery Wold Piggeries Ltd v Neerock Ltd t/a (Woodhead Brothers)

ongoing

Acting for Woodhead Brothers, a subsidiary of Morrisons, in a contractual dispute defending Woodhead's termination of its contract with Willerby following animal welfare issues arising at its farms.

Advice on supplier dispute

April 2024

Advised a large commercial retailer on a contractual dispute with its supplier.

Re. fraudulent misrepresentation claim

Advising in a proposed claim against a large private hospital for fraudulent misrepresentation and setting aside a settlement agreement (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Re claim for trademark infringement

Advised claimant in a High Court trademarks claim (assisting Fraser Campbell).

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Suppipat & Ors v Narongdej & Ors

[2021]

Acted for the Claimants in a multi-jurisdictional fraud claim against 17 separate defendants, for damages of more than $1 billion. Assisted in a worldwide freezing order application and advised on issues of limitation, characterisation of loss and conflict of laws (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Global Plastic v Inivos

[2021]

Acting for the Claimant in a breach of contract/quantum meruit claim arising from the supply and purchase of PPE equipment during the COVID-19 pandemic (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Re LCIA Arbitration

Acted for the claimants in a procedural hearing in an ongoing LCIA Arbitration where the claimants seek to recover the costs of defending proceedings brought in New York in breach of an arbitration agreement (assisting Fraser Campbell).

A v B (LCIA Arbitration)

[2021]

Acting for the proposed claimant in a prospective arbitration under the LCIA Rules 2020 regarding the termination of a multimillion-dollar License, Supply and Marketing Agreement for a chemotherapy drug (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Re Manufacturing Business

Acted for the petitioner in an unfair prejudice claim against five respondents where it is alleged that the respondents transferred away the company's most valuable asset without the petitioner's consent and at an undervalue (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Re International Sports Body

Acted for the defendant in an ongoing High Court claim for breach of a joint venture agreement (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Jones v McCarthy

Successfully acted for the claimant in a claim for breach of an asset swap agreement and breach of fiduciary duties (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Shield v Shield

Successfully acted for the defendant in a claim for breach of an oral indemnity agreement (assisting Fraser Campbell).

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Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of civil fraud.

Cases

[Worldwide Freezing Order]

Successfully acted to secure the discharge of a Worldwide Freezing Order against two companies (with Fraser Campbell).

Frontier Estates Limited v Ford and others

Acted for multiple defendants in a civil fraud case where it is alleged that the defendants dishonestly conspired with a former employee of the claimant in order to purchase valuable properties which should have been available for purchase by the claimant (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Re. fraudulent misrepresentation claim

Advising in a proposed claim against a large private hospital for fraudulent misrepresentation and setting aside a settlement agreement (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Suppipat & Ors v Narongdej & Ors

[2021]

Acted for the Claimants in a multi-jurisdictional fraud claim against 17 separate defendants, for damages of more than $1 billion. Assisted in a worldwide freezing order application and advised on issues of limitation, characterisation of loss and conflict of laws (assisting Victoria Windle QC).

Public & Regulatory

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of public & regulatory law.

Cases

Ofgem v [Solar Farm Operator]

2024

Acted successfully for Ofgem in a dispute against a Solar Farm Operator which sought to challenge Ofgem's decision to recoup payments under the Feed-In-Tariff Scheme made to the Solar Farm Operator due to the Operator's failure to comply with the scheme's conditions.

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SSFCA v Khan

[2024] EWHC 261

Acted successfully for the Foreign Office in a court review to the decision to sanction Anzhelika Khan.

Mazepin v SSFCA

Acting for the Foreign Office in the one of the first court review challenges to a UK decision to sanction an individual pursuant to the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018.

Proposed judicial review

Acted for the Secretary of State in a proposed judicial review of alleged failure to comply with his data protection obligations in relation to a high-profile scheme (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Russia Today v Ofcom

[2021] EWCA Civ 1534

For Russia Today in the Court of Appeal considering the application of Ofcom's impartiality rules to major news events such as the Salisbury poisoning and the war in Syria (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Scott and Lewis v The Secretary of State for Transport and others

Acted for the Secretary of State for Transport and the Traffic Commissioner for the East of England in an appeal against a decision of the Traffic Commissioner which found that the claimants were not of good repute in relation to an application under the Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act 1995 (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Proposed judicial review of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

(2021)

Advised the MHRA in a proposed judicial review of its alleged failure to properly categorise a biomedical research company under domestic and EU law (assisting Fraser Campbell).

Good Law Project Ltd v The Prime Minister

[2022] EWHC 298 (Admin)

For the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Health in a judicial review of appointments to positions critical to the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

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Competition

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of EU & competition law.

Cases

Alcatel Lucent SASD v Amazon Digital UK Ltd & Ors

[2024] EWHC 1921 (Pat)

Femi appeared on behalf of Amazon, led by James Segan KC, in a dispute regarding RAND terms for a licence to standard essential and non-essential patents. A case summary may be found here.

Lenovo v InterDigital

[2024] EWHC 596

Acted for Lenovo in successfully resisting InterDigital's applications contesting the Court's jurisdiction. The Court found that there is a reasonable prospect of success that Lenovo is entitled to a FRAND licence in respect of InterDigital's entire portfolio of patents, finding that it may be discriminatory for InterDigital to offer a SEP-only licence to Lenovo if it offered licences covering its entire portfolio to other licensees.

Lenovo v Ericsson

[2024] EWHC 846 (Ch)

Acting for Lenovo in successfully resisting Ericsson's applications contesting the Court's jurisdiction and seeking a strike out of elements of Lenovo's claim.

Lenovo Group Ltd & Ors v InterDigital Technology Corporation & Ors

[2024] EWHC 596 (Ch)

Acting for Lenovo in the first instance of a FRAND interim regime being considered by the Court.

Various Claimants v Volkswagen AG and Others

Advising on public and EU law issues arising in complex High Court group litigation involving allegations of unfair trading, breach of statutory duty, and deceit (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Sport

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' arbitration practice.

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Cases

Barnsley v EFL

2024

Acted for the EFL as junior counsel in respect of a Compliant brought by the EFL against Barnsley Football Club for a breach of the EFL's Regulations concerning the notice that must be provided to the EFL on changes in the ownership of EFL clubs.

International Tennis Federation

2023

Acted (unled) for the International Tennis Federation in proceedings under the 2023 ITF Davis Cup Regulations against the Estonian Tennis Federation and the Iranian Tennis Federation, challenging decisions of the ITF Davis Cup Committee on where Davis Cup World Group play-off ties should be held.

[Club] v Premier League

Representing the Premier League (unled) in a dispute under the Premier League's Rules before an independent Commission.

Intellectual Property

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of Intellectual Property.

Cases

Alcatel Lucent SASD v Amazon Digital UK Ltd & Ors

[2024] EWHC 1921 (Pat)

Femi appeared on behalf of Amazon, led by James Segan KC, in a dispute regarding RAND terms for a licence to standard essential and non-essential patents. A case summary may be found here.

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Lenovo v Ericsson
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Lenovo Group Ltd & Ors v InterDigital Technology Corporation & Ors
[2024] EWHC 596 (Ch)

Acting for Lenovo in the first instance of a FRAND interim regime being considered by the Court.

Financial Services & Banking

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of financial services & banking.

Cases

Financial Conduct Authority v Wealthtek LLP
2023

Acted for Mr John Dance, the former manager of WealthTek LLP in proceedings brought by the FCA arising from an alleged "shortfall" of £81 million in client funds. Claim involves a £40 million worldwide freezing order and parallel criminal proceedings.

FCA v BlueCrest Capital Management (UK) LLP
ongoing

Acting for the hedge fund BlueCrest Capital Management (UK) LLP in a challenge to the FCA's Decision Notice imposing a fine of £40.8 million and a redress scheme. The FCA decision concerns alleged breaches of PRIN 8 (conflicts of interest) arising from the management of an internal fund open only to BlueCrest employees.

Sanctions

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of sanction law.

Cases

SSFCA v Khan
[2024] EWHC 261

Acted successfully for the Foreign Office in a court review to the decision to sanction Anzhelika Khan.

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Mazepin v SSFCA

Acting for the Foreign Office in the one of the first court review challenges to a UK decision to sanction an individual pursuant to the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018.

Mubarak and Others v EU Council

For the late former President of Egypt, President of Egypt, Mohamed Hosni Elsayed Mubarak, and members of his family successfully annulling sanctions imposed in 2018, 2019 and 2020 (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Media & Entertainment

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of Media & Entertainment.

Cases

Advice on a performance dispute

April 2024

Advising a music venue on a contractual dispute with an artist.

Public International Law

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of public international law.

Cases

Couso Permuy v Spain

For the UK Government appearing in the European Court of Human Rights on the issue of whether the Convention provides a right to repatriation from war zones (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

MGN Limited v the United Kingdom

Application before the European Court of Human Rights concerning the compatibility of the UK litigation costs regime with the right to freedom of expression under Article 10 ECHR (assisting Jason Pobjoy)

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Employment

Femi accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' arbitration practice.

Cases

[Oil and Gas company] v [individual]
Acted for the defendant individual in applications for injunctions in respect of restrictive covenants (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

[Individual] v [Global Investment Company]
Acted (unled) for an individual in a direct sex discrimination and harassment claim against her former employee, a member of the FTSE 100.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

Gray's Inn, 2019

- 2019 Baroness Hale Scholarship
- 2019 Residential Scholarship

City Law School, 2019 Academic Excellence Scholar

University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2018-2019 Thouron Scholar

University of Cambridge, 2018 Lucas-Smith Memorial Prize for Law

Queens' College, 2017 – 2018 Exhibition Scholar

Publications

- March 2020 Predictive Analytics and International Human Rights Law, City Law Review
- January 2020 National Security Impacts of Climate Change on NATO, University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law
- Fall 2018 Unpacking Identity Politics and Hybridity, Global Affairs Review Penn Law

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Professional Experience

- 3 October 2020 – Present Court of Appeal of England and Wales, Judicial Assistant to Lord Justice Haddon-Cave
- 29 June 2020 – 4 September 2020 Financial Conduct Authority, Internship
- November – December 2019 6 Pump Court, Legal Assistant to Stephen Hockman QC
- June – September 2019 United Nations Global Compact, Climate and Integrity Intern

VAT registration number: 429663857

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